

# BEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT



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## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



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## **Our Mission**

**The Bedford Fire Department is committed to preserving life and property through rapid emergency response, public education, organizational preparedness, and planning.**





# CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Members of Council,

On behalf of the dedicated men and women that make up the Bedford Fire Department (BFD), I would like to thank you for reviewing our 2013 annual report. It was an exciting year as we celebrated one-hundred and twenty five years of service to the community while maintaining our untarnished record of fielding every emergency call received without turnover to another agency. This report will hopefully provide the reader some insight into our daily activities as well as the accomplishments the fire department has achieved over the past twelve months.

The fire department responded to 716 emergency calls during 2013, a significant decrease from recent years. The decrease in calls only led to an increase in the amount of time our firefighters had available to train and focus on preparedness. Our men and women spent over 1,600 hours training last year to provide the most proficient, effective, and professional service possible.

I would like to thank the Bedford Town Council for their continued support of the fire department. Without their commitment to the fire department and its mission goals, we would not be able to continue to provide the quality service that our citizens have come to expect.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Creasy".

Brad Creasy  
Chief of Department





# 2013 ROSTER

## Operational Officers:

**Chief-** L. Brad Creasy  
**Deputy Chief-** Zeph Cunningham  
**Assistant Chief-** Russell Stevens  
**Captain-** Greg Fulton  
**1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-** Jason Overstreet  
**Lieutenant-** Matthew Scott

## Administrative Officers:

**President-** Brandon Long  
**Vice-President-** James Parker  
**Secretary-** Kenny Taggart  
**Asst. Secretary-** Curtis Marshall  
**Treasurer-** Lance Stenzel  
**Chaplain-** Chad Baker

## Engineers:

**Asst. Chief Russell Stevens**  
James Parker  
Greg Fulton  
Gordon Musgrove  
Brad Creasy  
William Crumpacker  
Kevin Musgrove  
Zeph Cunningham  
Jeremy Garten  
Billy Creasey  
Brandon Long  
Chad Baker  
Jason Overstreet  
C.J. Marshall  
John Moore  
Kenneth Taggart  
John Gulatsi  
Matt Scott

## Alternate Engineers:

Jeremy Evans  
Alex McKinney  
Garrett Pavich  
Stephen Curry  
Chris Gardner  
Lance Stenzel

## Salvage:

**Lt. Jason Overstreet**  
Brandon Crouch  
Stacey Wills  
Stacey Hailey  
Jerry Hacker  
Barry Cornet  
Caleb Dooley  
Charles Huckaby  
Willie Walters  
Jacob Beisser

## Fire Training:

**Lt. Jason Overstreet**  
Stephen Curry

## EMS Training:

Jon Ohlinger

## Fire Marshal:

James Parker

## BCoFR Liaison:

Zeph Cunningham

## Communications:

Garrett Pavich  
Billy Creasey  
Michael Williams

## Hose Foreman:

**1<sup>st</sup> Asst:** Kevin Musgrove  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Asst:** Jeremy Garten  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Asst:** Billy Creasey  
**4<sup>th</sup> Asst:** James Parker

## Hoseman:

**Capt. Greg Fulton**  
Eric Carter  
Jon Ohlinger  
Michael Williams  
Ryan King

## BCoFR Safety Officer:

James Parker

## S.C.B.A. Maintenance:

Jason Overstreet  
Kevin Musgrove





# HISTORY

*The need for organized fire protection in the then Town of Liberty became most evident on the morning of October 12, 1884 when a fire began in a store operated by J.N. Early on the southeast corner of Bridge Street and Railroad Avenue. When the fire was discovered in the early morning hours very little could be done, as there was no organized fire department and a meager water supply. When daylight came, only two buildings were left standing, and the scene was one of desolation. In the years to follow several important events contributed to the growth of this small town. When owners began rebuilding their downtown businesses they used more permanent materials such as brick and heavy timber. The town also began installing a municipal water supply and had installed twenty-five fire hydrants by 1886. Area business men met in the fall of 1887 to discuss the need for an organized fire company to protect area businesses and homes. Several months later in early 1888, the Bedford Volunteer Fire Department was organized with a membership of twenty-five volunteer firemen; most of whom were downtown merchant owners.*

*Originally located on Court Street near the intersection of East Main Street, the Town of Bedford constructed a new firehouse for the fire department on West Depot Street in 1927. To accommodate larger apparatus and a growing membership, the City of Bedford built the current fire station at 315 Bedford Avenue in 1974.*

*Today, the Bedford Fire Department is responsible for more than just protecting life and property from the ravages of fire through fire suppression. It also provides a broad range of services that include emergency medical services, hazardous material responses, special and technical rescue, and fire prevention through public education.*



**Bedford Volunteer Fire Company; 1890**



**Bedford Volunteer Fire Company, 1927**

## B.F.D. TODAY

**TOTAL SERVICE AREA: 194 square miles**

**TOTAL SERVICE POPULATION: 22,200**

**ACTIVE FIRE STATIONS: 1**

**APPARATUS FLEET: 10**

**ACTIVE FIREFIGHTERS: 44**



# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- January 19, 2013: Over ninety BFD firefighters and guest attended the department's annual awards banquet held at the Columns Conference Center. Asst Chief Russell Stevens was presented a proclamation from City Manager Charles Kolakowski on behalf of the city recognizing his 10,000th emergency response.
- June 12, 2013: 7:14pm– BFD units responded to Moneta Road at Joppa Mill Road for a reported motor vehicle accident with multiple injuries. Wagon 1 (with four) and Chief 1 arrived at 7:21pm to find two vehicles with heavy damage and two patients entrapped. The accident claimed the lives of two individuals and critically injured three others.
- July 18, 2013: 8:45pm– BFD units were dispatched to Sam Moore Furniture for reports of fire in the roof. Wagon 1 (with four) arrived at 8:51pm to find light smoke showing from the roof. Crews quickly located the fire and held damage to the area of origin.
- July 19, 2013– After eight long months of repair, Engine 1 returned to service after its accident in December.
- October 5, 2013– The Bedford Fire Department celebrated 125 years of service to the community with an antique parade, static display of apparatus, and live concert free to the public.
- December 14, 2013: 11:30pm– BFD units responded to 719 Longwood Avenue for a reported house fire. Engine 1 (with four) arrived at 11:35pm to find a two-story private dwelling with heavy fire showing from the first and second floor. Firefighters made an aggressive interior attack but encountered heavy damage to the floor and stairs making access to the second floor difficult. Chief 1 requested a second alarm which brought units from Forest, Big Island, and Montvale. The fire was marked under control at 12:23am but it took firefighters almost three more hours to totally



Assistant Chief Russell Stevens was presented with a proclamation from city council recognizing his 10,000th response in 38 years.



06/12/2013– Moneta Road/Joppa Mill Road Fatal MVC



12/14/13 Working Fire: 719 Longwood Avenue



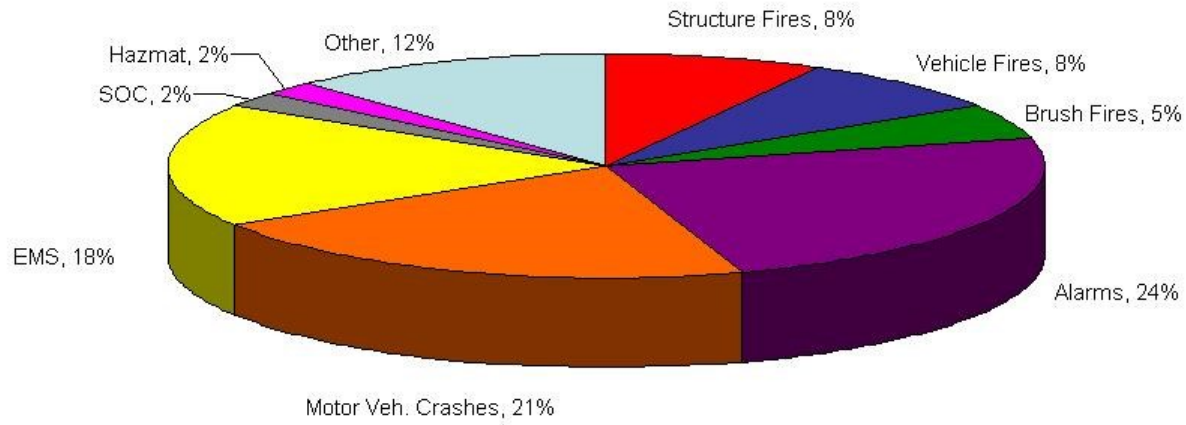
# 2013 GOAL RESULTS

1. **Replace 1988 pumper through capital budget.** Funding for the replacement of a twenty-five year old pumper was appropriated by council in June. Bids were accepted and awarded in August for the purchase of a new pumper at the cost of \$553,000. Delivery of the unit is expected in August 2014.
2. **Replace heavy rescue truck.** Bedford County's Board of Supervisors voted to appropriate \$250,000 to supplement the purchase of this unit in June. Using a national broker, the truck was sold for \$150,000 which will leave the department approximately \$300,000 to finance using annual donations.
3. **Hold successful 125th anniversary celebration on October 5, 2013.** An anniversary committee worked for six months to plan for a full day of festivities to celebrate. An antique fire truck parade kicked off the event at noon which featuring approximately twenty apparatus that included the departments hand-drawn hose reel and 1927 Seagrave, Lynchburg City Fire Department's 1891 horse-drawn aerial ladder, and many other antique fire trucks.
4. **Work with county board of supervisors and fire commission to develop new funding matrix for all fire departments throughout the county.** A proposed matrix was presented in October that suggested a base stipend of \$25,000 to each fire department with a supplement of \$100 paid for each response during the calendar year. The fire commission asked that the matrix be edited to include fuel to offset some of the funding loss for several departments who aren't as busy. The final matrix has not yet been voted on by the board.
5. **Hold three Department of Fire Programs funded classes at the Bedford Fire Station.** A Mayday Firefighter Down class, Intro to Technical Rescue class, and Rope Operations class have been scheduled for the spring of 2014.
6. **Update department bylaws with new standards for officers.** A committee began work on developing new minimum standards for officers but they have not been implemented yet. The chief has asked that work continue until new standards are adopted and added into policy.
7. **Outfit brush trucks with enough EMS equipment to handle motor vehicle crashes during inclement weather.** A jump bag with immobilization, basic first aid equipment, and folding long spine boards were added to both brush trucks to handle EMS on motor vehicle crashes during snow and inclement weather.
8. **Add restroom facility to Bedford Area Fire Training Center on Orange Street that can be utilized by both Fire and Police.** Site work for restrooms was completed in the fall. Buildings have been placed over stubbed plumbing and interior work is set to be completed by the spring.
9. **Research electronic response and fire reporting programs.** A committee researched NFIRS programs and determined that the current online version is the most cost effective at this time. An electronic response and mapping program was also researched and the program Active911 was tested for 90 days. After a successful demo, existing mobile data terminals were removed from apparatus and were replaced with tablets loaded with the new program.
10. **Update emergency contact forms for all personnel.** Emergency contact forms were re-designed and forwarded to all members to update personnel records.





# STATISTICS



Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Brush Fires
Alarms	Motor Veh. Crashes	EMS
SOC	Hazmat	Other

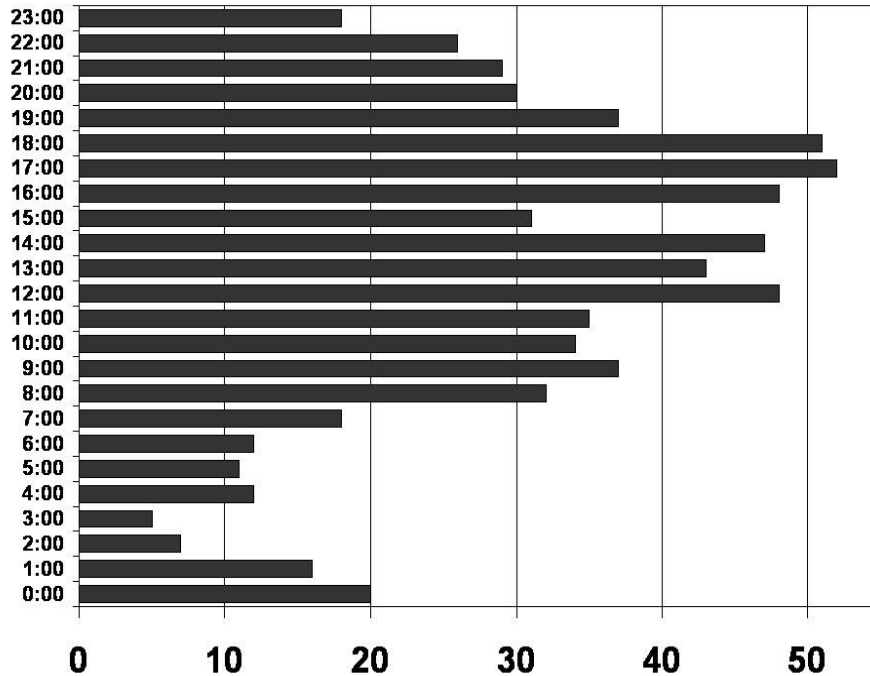
## 2013 Summary

- Total responses: 716
- Average Firefighters per call: 11
- Responses that required fire suppression: 141
- Responses that involved medical treatment: 101
- Total dollar loss: \$986,350.00
- Civilian fire related injuries or deaths: 0
- Firefighter Injuries: 7

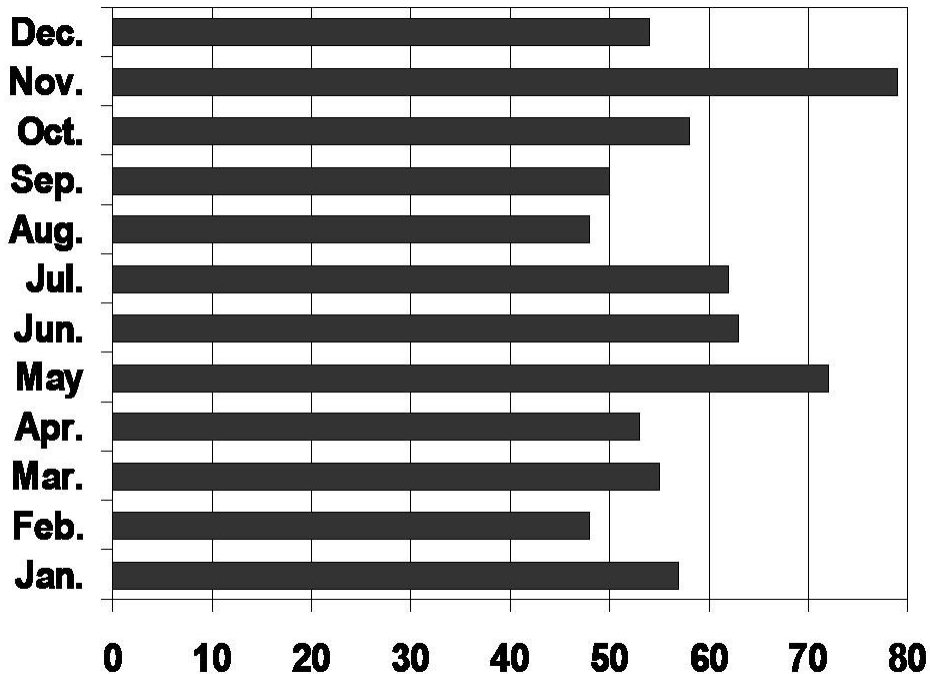


# STATISTICS

## CALL VOLUME BY TIME OF DAY



## CALL VOLUME BY MONTH





# CERTIFICATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## FIREFIGHTER I

A 120-hour course that is designed for the firefighter who is prepared to take more of a leadership role in the company. Students learn about leadership skills and more advanced fire ground techniques.

**Certificates received by:**

**FF William Walters, FF Jacob Beisser,  
FF/EMT Nick Rice , FF Sarah Wade**

## FIREFIGHTER II

A 40-hour course that is designed for the firefighter who is prepared to take more of a leadership role in the company. Students learn about leadership skills and more advanced fire ground techniques.

**Certificate received by: FF William Walters,  
FF Sarah Wade.**

## DRIVER/OPERATOR-PUMPER

A 40-hour course with detailed instruction on the operation, maintenance and design of pumping fire apparatus.

**Certificate received by: FF/EMT Kenneth Taggart**

## MAYDAY, FIREFIGHTER DOWN

A 16-hour course designed to teach advanced skills in victim/firefighter removal with an emphasis on working under the extreme pressures encountered while rescuing another firefighter.

**Certificate received by: FF/EMT M.J. McGinnis**

## ETHANOL EMERGENCIES

A 16-hour course designed to help the student knowledge and skills necessary to safely and effectively manage a ethanol emergency.

**Certificate received by: FF/EMT William Crumpacker,  
FF/EMT-I John Gulatsi, FF/EMT Stacey Wills,  
FF/EMT James Parker, Asst Chief Russell Stevens**

## LEADERSHIP II

12-hour course that provides the company officer with the basic leadership skills and tools needed to perform effectively in the fire service environment.

**Certificate received by: FF/EMT Jason Overstreet**

## STRATEGY & TACTICS FOR THE INITIAL COMPANY OFFICER

16-hour course designed to meet the management needs of Company officers responsible for managing the operations of one or more companies during structural fire fighting operations.

**Certificate received by: FF/PM Stephen Curry**

## INSTRUCTOR III

32-hour course designed to train participants on advanced techniques in constructing lesson plan development and develop training aids to support delivery.

**Certificate received by: FF/PM Curtis Marshall**

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-BASIC

A 120-hour course designed to instruct the student to the level of EMT-Basic who serves as a vital link in the chain of the health care team. It is recognized that the majority of pre-hospital medical care will be provided by the EMT- Basic.

**Certificate received by: FF/EMT Garrett Pavich,  
FF/EMT Chris Gardner, Lieutenant Matt Scott (re-cert)**

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-ENHANCED

A 102-hour course designed to instruct the student in the following areas of pre-hospital care: preparatory skills, trauma, patient assessment, intravenous access and airway management.

**Certificate received by: FF/EMT-E Chad Baker,  
FF/EMT-E Jerry Hacker**

## INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL RESCUE

A 24-hour course designed to introduce the firefighter to a wide variety of technical rescue situations. The course includes an overview of specialized rescue, atmospheric monitoring, search, rescue incident management and risk assessment.

**Certificate received by: Asst Chief Russell Stevens,  
FF Sarah Wade**



# VOLUNTEER SAVINGS

Area Protected (square miles)	194
Residential Structures in Primary Response Area:	8,539
Commercial Structures in Primary Response Area:	649
Estimated Population:	22,200

Average Number of Apparatus per Response:	2
Average Firefighters per Response:	13
Career Firefighters Needed per Shift:	10/shift
Shifts Needed For 24hr/7day wk Coverage:	3
Average Career Chief Officer Salary:	\$60,000
Average Career Firefighter/EMT Salary:	\$34,500
Average Career Firefighter/ALS Salary:	\$38,000

Savings Per Firefighter:	\$43,778
Savings Per Residence:	\$175.00
Savings Per Capita:	\$72.00

<b>Total Annual Volunteer Savings:</b>	<b><u>\$1,576,000</u></b>
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# THE COST OF SAVING LIVES

HELMET:	\$400
COAT:	\$1300
PANTS:	\$900
BOOTS:	\$350
RADIO:	\$2330
SCBA:	\$5000
TOOLS:	\$300
<u>T.I.C:</u>	<u>\$10000</u>

TOTAL: \$20,580.00





# 125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The fire department celebrated its 125th anniversary on October 5, 2013 with an antique fire truck parade, static display of trucks, and a live concert that evening. Several hundred residents lined the streets of downtown Bedford to watch twenty-five antique fire trucks led by the Bedford Fire Department's original hand-drawn hose reel. Later that evening over 700 residents enjoyed live music performed by the Amish Outlaws, a cover band that has played for large corporations such as McDonalds, Red Bull Energy Drinks, Miller Brewing Company, and Barclays Financial Services.







# PUBLIC EDUCATION

BFD firefighters spend countless hours each year teaching fire prevention and safety at schools, daycares, businesses, and civic organization meetings. Working closely with the Bedford County Fire & Rescue career staff, BFD firefighters annually visit all four elementary schools that are located within the company's first due response area to teach fire safety in October. Through these programs over 2,000 children hear our fire safety message, crawl through the fire safety trailer, and walk-through the fire engine.





# SOCIAL MEDIA

The fire department continues to share current news and upcoming events with the community and local media agencies through Twitter, Facebook, and [www.bedfordfd.com](http://www.bedfordfd.com); the department's website. The department's website went online in 2003 and currently gets an average of 32,000 hits each day. Website visitors from around the world can read through incident narratives, see personnel profiles, apparatus profiles, ISO rating information, smoke detector installation program information, and more. We currently have over 600 followers on Twitter who track department activity through "Tweets", or activity updates. The latest addition to our social media outlet was the addition of a Bedford Fire Department Facebook page in 2009. Currently there are 7,600 people who "Like" the department's page and follow department activity through Facebook; the second most of any fire department in the state of Virginia.







# TRAINING



## Bedford Area Fire Training Center

This training facility is utilized by not only the eleven land based fire stations within Bedford County but also by agencies located outside of our county such as RR Donnelly Fire Brigade, Roanoke City Fire-EMS, and Botetourt County Emergency Services. The facility includes a Class A burn building, a collapse site, classroom, mayday firefighter down prop, and air bottle fill station.

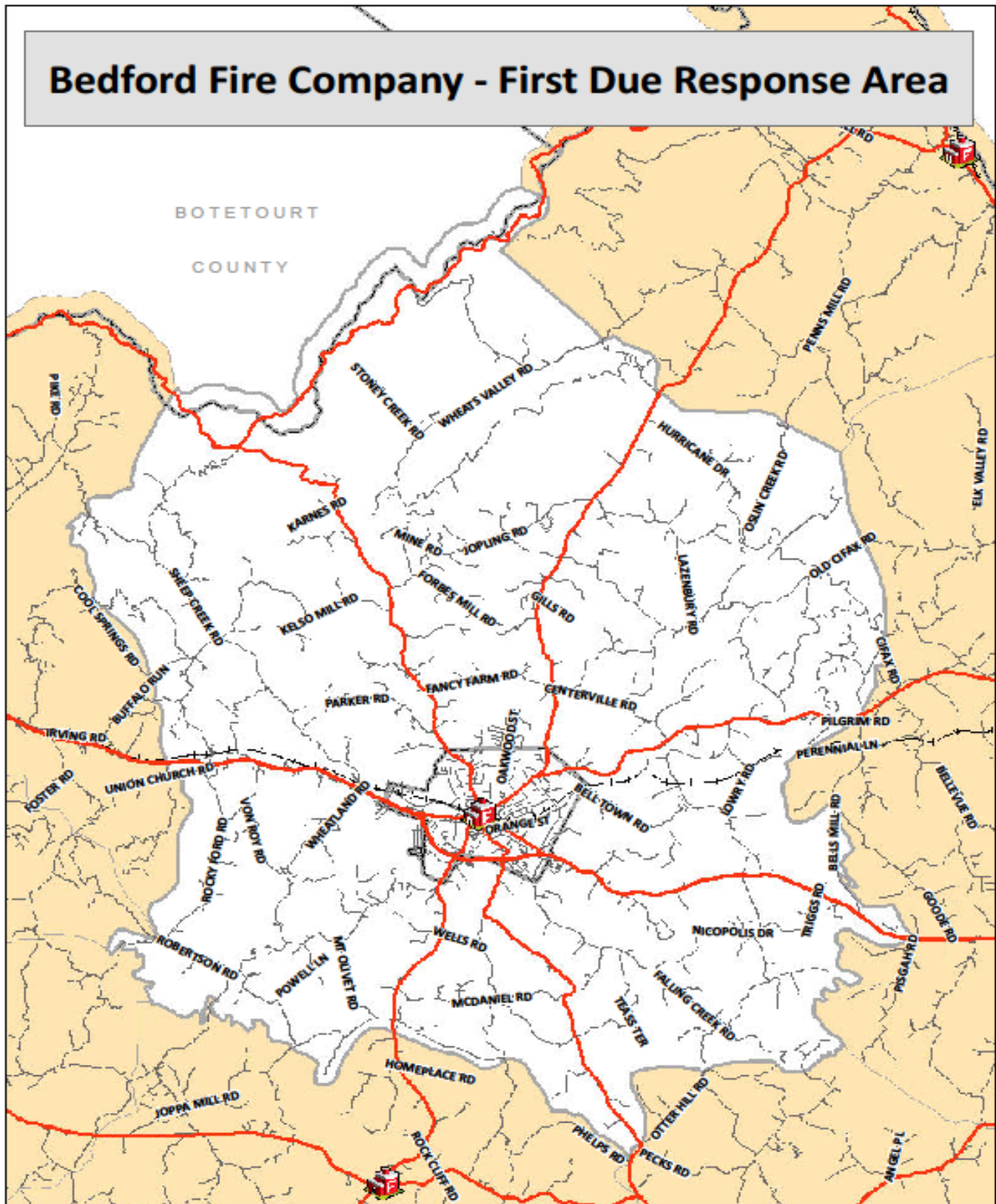
Work on the addition of restrooms began in October 2013. Utilizing concrete buildings that were donated by a local company, the buildings will offer men and women's restrooms as well as additional storage.



The collapse provides training areas for confined space, USAR (urban search & rescue), and K-9 search and rescue training.



# 1st DUE SERVICE AREA

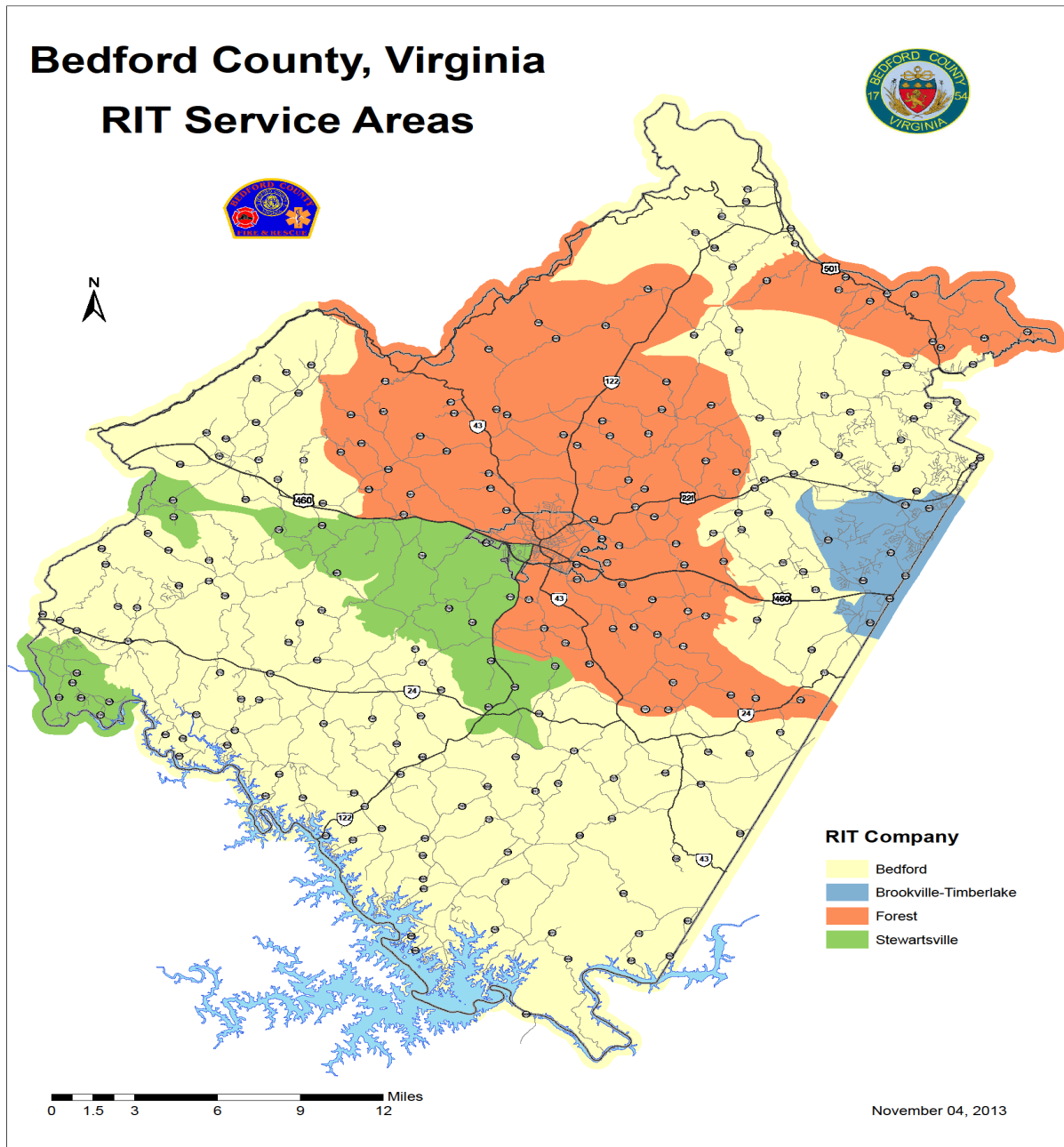






# RIT RESPONSE AREA

A Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) is a team of two or more firefighters dedicated solely to the search and rescue of other firefighters in distress. The Bedford Fire Department responds throughout Bedford County as one of three county RIT teams. Typically with a crew of six firefighters, Ladder 1 establishes the RIT with highly skilled firefighters who train regularly on the disentanglement and removal of a downed firefighters.





# APPARATUS PROFILE



## Engine 1

2007 Seagrave Pumper  
1500gpm/750 gallons

Wagon 1  
2002 HME/M&W Pumper  
1500gpm/1250 gallons







# APPARATUS PROFILE



Ladder 1  
2007 Seagrave 100' TDA



Rescue 1  
2000 HME/M&W  
Walk-Around Heavy Rescue



# APPARATUS PROFILE

**Brush 1**  
2009 Ford F450  
250gpm/300 gallons



**Brush 1-A**  
2006 Ford F550  
250gpm/300 gallons